

The monthly bulletin of the  
Bar Hill Residents Association,  
distributed to all residents.

Bar Hill Residents Association

The Residents Association AGM was held on November 15th in the School. I am pleased to report that the Committee is now back at full strength. Your new Committee for the coming year is:

Chairman	Ken Anderson	80492	47 Fox Hollow	X
Secretary	Kevin Read-Jones	80384	23 Fox Hollow	X
Treasurer	George Clapinski	80996	133 Pheasant Rise	X
Membership Sec.	Eric Levitt	80266	27 Oatlands Avenue	X
Vice-Chairman	Stuart Johnstone	80908	45 Fox Hollow	X
	Sue Turner	80716	89 Pheasant Rise	X
	Janet Wood	80573	3 Almond Grove	X
	Gerry Brunning	-	29 Otter Close	✓
	Jeff Rodbard	80269	27 Fox Hollow	X
	Revd. H. Scott	80242	44 Partridge Drive	X
	Tom Flannigan	-	104 Pheasant Rise	X
	Jo Hall	80304	41 Otter Close	X
	Mary Ingram	80447	Otter Close	
	Peter Hoare	80758	14 Pheasant Rise.	X

Jeff Rodbard will be the shops representative, and Sue Turner and Tom Flannigan will be representing the industrial areas.

I would like to remind villagers of the objectives of the Residents Association. They can be summarised as being to:

- keep residents informed of matters of interest to them,
- act as an intermediary between residents and other parties,
- raise funds and promote the interests of Bar Hill.

The Association can only operate effectively if it gets feedback from the people it represents. Please get to know who your local representative is. If you consider any action is required on a particular issue, tell us. After all, as G. K. Chesterton once said, "If you convey to a woman that something ought to be done, there is always a dreadful danger that she will suddenly do it."

The new Committee have a busy year in front of them. Items on our agenda include: the Village Trust: improving the Newsletter's format, layout and contents; printing and issuing a village directory; the summer fete; the fireworks display; dances and other social functions; and building and installing children's adventure playground equipment. We shall also continue to maintain a watchful eye on issues such as village maintenance and amenities, the Superstore, the Village Hall, office blocks, shopping facilities and 101 other items.

I would like to comment further on three items. Firstly, we are currently conducting our annual membership drive. This, I would emphasise, is our main source of income. Without subscriptions we would not be able to produce this Newsletter. The annual subscription of 50 pence to householders and £1 to businesses has remained unchanged since 1967, and we think this represents excellent value for money - there is little obtainable nowadays for less than 1 penny per week. We hope you will support us when we call on you.

Secondly, as from the next issue, the Newsletter will be produced by a new team. This will, we think, spread more evenly and fairly the workload associated with its production, which in the past few years has fallen solely on the shoulders of John Wills and his wife. This change will allow us to make a number of significant improvements. We shall be retaining the regular articles - Newcomers, Club and

continued overleaf

Societies announcements and comments, Parish Council and Residents Association reports - but in addition we hope to include additional items. We have made a start this month with a competition corner. Other items in our minds include an editorial, children's section, developers' comments, an expanded information service, advertising, births column, etc. We also hope to attract more letters and comments from individuals. Please let us know if you could contribute anything, either regularly or sporadically. We should also like to hear your suggestions as to what you would like to see in a community magazine. Contributions must meet our closing date for the receipt of copy. This will be December 19th for the January 1975 issue, and the 22nd of each month for each subsequent issue. Please hand your copy in at any of the following:

Sue Turner	89 Pheasant Rise ✓
Jeff Rodbard	27 Fox Hollow or Chemist's shop ✓
George Clapinski	133 Pheasant Rise ✓
Janet Wood	3 Almond Grove ✓
Ken Anderson	47 Fox Hollow. ✓

Finally, in the spring of 1975 we will be publishing a village directory. We would be grateful of suggestions for inclusion in it. More important still, will all village clubs and societies in the near future submit to the Residents Association an updated list of their club's officials, frequency and time of meeting and a precis of what the club does and offers.

Ken Anderson, Chairman BHRA

#### 8 O'Clock Club

On Thursday, 5th December at 8 p.m. in the School, we have a member of Heffer's Bookshops to show us some good ideas in Christmas books for children. So anyone stuck for an idea for a child's present would find this meeting very useful. Also, all members who are attending our Christmas meal: this meeting is the last chance to pay your money in. To all members and non-members, the 8 O'Clock Club would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

#### The Royal British Legion

The Chairman and Committee of the Bar Hill Branch have agreed to extend Ordinary Membership of the Branch to ex-Servicemen and Associate Membership to wives of ex-Servicemen. Associated Membership can also be extended to anyone interested in the activities of the Royal British Legion.

We intend in the coming year to run dances and social evenings at regular intervals, commencing with a bus trip in February to London to see Michael Crawford in "Billy". Anyone interested please ring 80578 or 80232.

The Branch wish to thank everyone for the sum of £56.00 for Poppy Day.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to one and all.

#### 1st Bar Hill Scout Group

Waste Paper - our next collection will be on Saturday, 14th December, and once again we ask for your support with this venture. Money earned by this effort comes straight back to the Village by providing equipment and opportunity for the boys. Now that we have a rival, the Council, we hope that you will feel that you can support our collection and would be obliged if you could have your waste paper out by 9.30 a.m. on Saturday, 14th December.

Carol Service - the boys from both Cub Packs and the Troop, together with the Brownies and Guides, will be attending a Carol Service to be held at the Church on Sunday, 22nd December, starting at 10 a.m. With the numbers that we now have, the Church should get very full, so if you are coming, please try and get there early.

Christmas Holidays - both the Packs and the Troop will hold their last meetings during the week ending Friday, 20th December and will not be starting up again till after the School holidays are over. The re-start dates will be published in the January Newsletter.

Happy Christmas - to all our friends and helpers. Thank you for your support during 1974.

### Newcomers

12th December: Carol Service at the Church Centre, 2 p.m.; all very welcome, young and old, tea served.

This will be our last meeting for the year, and because of lack of support there will be no Thursday afternoons for the Newcomers in 1975, in its present form. It is impossible to run a Club without regular attendance for speakers; and we would like to give our thanks to the small band of people who have helped and supported us in the past months.

We are hoping to start an informal weekly meeting instead, if there is enough interest - details to be announced in the January Newsletter.

### Church Centre

Junior Church Has anyone got any musical instruments they have finished with - and empty cotton reels? Please let Jo Hall have them, 41 Otter Close, before 8th December.

Coffee Morning Wednesday, 4th December, 10 a.m. - 12 noon in Church Centre. Last-minute Christmas gifts, cakes, mince pies, dressed dolls, pickled onions, etc. Oxfam Christmas cards and items for National Children's Homes also on sale. All other proceeds to the Church Centre. All very welcome.

Carol Service Come and sing Christmas Carols with us on Sunday, 22nd December at 4 p.m. in the Church Centre: everyone welcome.

Jo Hall

### Bar Hill Church

Bar Hill Church is an Ecumenical Experiment, that is, an attempt by the Church of England, United Reform, Methodists, Baptists, Society of Friends to work together in this place to share worship and life together.

Our service at 10 a.m. on Sundays is a service which we invite Christians of all these denominations to share with us. (There is a creche for babies and Junior Church for young children.)

On Saturday, 4th January there will be a "goodbye" party for Rev. D. McIlhagga and his family who are leaving us to take up a new appointment in St. Ives. All of Donald's and Kate's many friends in the Village are asked to note this date, and come.

Carole Pook, Church Secretary

### Wanted

Violin, viola, cello (reasonable standard), to join a chamber group - mostly baroque and classical. Ring Crafts Hill 80541.

### 1st Bar Hill Brownie Guide Pack

We would like to thank the Cubs and everyone who helped and supported our Coffee Morning. We raised £21 to help buy more playground equipment for the Village Green. All Brownies would like to wish everybody a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

### Congratulations, Playgroup Committee

Those of you who, like me, went along to the Church Centre on Saturday, 23rd November were surely most impressed by the standard of the work and produce being sold at the Christmas Fayre. Nobody could have failed to be impressed by the quality of the work and also the many hours of effort that such a Fayre must have involved.

My congratulations go to all who helped to earn something towards the funds of one of the most-used Village organisations. They also gave me the unusual sight of people queuing to get into Church!

Wellwisher

Thanks The Playgroup Fayre was a great success and we would like to thank all those who contributed to it; we expect that the total raised will be around £230 finally - there are still some items to be sold, and these will be available on Wednesday, 11th December from 9.30 (so will coffee), in the Church Centre. Thank you again to all who gave help and support.

### A Tale of Two Bonfires

Due to the prevailing tide of vandalism that seems to be running through our society at the present time, the bonfire that the youngsters of this Village had built for the enjoyment of all was set on fire in advance of the official date. The look on the faces of some of those youngsters the next morning told its own story, and I wish that the vandals responsible could have been there to see them. It was with a sense of pride that I saw those same boys and girls start to build a second bonfire on that Sunday in the pouring rain, not just in defiance of the weather but in defiance of those who had sought to spoil their enjoyment. The result, you know. A second, even better bonfire for the enjoyment of all. I would like to finish this tale with a big thankyou, to the youngsters of this Village who worked so hard, sometimes in filthy weather, to give us all such an enjoyable evening.

Gerry Craske

### Bar Hill Community Primary School

Letter to the Editor:

Dear Sir,

In view of the recent reports in the Cambridge Evening News about the Parish Council's intention to purchase a duplicator, I would like to remind clubs and associations who use the school (and indeed, those who don't) of some of the facilities we have, apart from the rooms and halls.

All the school's audio-visual aids, and certain items of P.E. equipment are available for use on request by recognised organisations. This includes a 16 mm. sound projector, slide and film-strip projectors, cassette and reel recorders, record players, all small P.E. apparatus and some of the larger equipment.

The Community School also has a Roneo duplicator that clubs and societies may use to print handouts, programmes, tickets, etc., for social functions and meetings. Other equipment includes a spirit duplicator and a photo-copier. There is no charge for using the majority of this equipment, providing the clubs concerned supply their own materials. In certain circumstances we will produce and duplicate material for a small fee.

Library There is a possibility that the library at the school may have to close after Christmas. As it would be a great shame to lose this amenity, I am trying to organise a rota of people to run the library on a Monday evening. No library experience is necessary.

If you have any enquiries about the use of the community school and its equipment, or the library, please don't hesitate to contact me, either at school or at home.

Stephen Gilbert, Community Tutor

### Bar Hill Horticultural Society

Firstly, a reminder that annual subscriptions of 25p are due on 1st January 1975; membership entitles you to purchase horticultural supplies at a reduced rate and to attend meetings arranged by the committee. The trading post will be closed until the end of January; a reopening date will be given in a later Newsletter.

The meeting held on Wednesday, November 20th had a very disappointing attendance - it was considered that the subject, "Fruit growing in a small garden", was of general interest. The speaker was Mr. K. Cramp, past Secretary and a founder member of Shelford Horticultural Society. Mr. Cramp is an authority on fruit growing and gave a most interesting talk, offering advice on the varieties of different fruits to grow. This information can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary.

Garden Hints This has been a very difficult period for outdoor gardening because of the weather, but as soon as conditions improve it is advisable to make up for lost time, especially planting shrubs and preparing existing lawns for next season - these should be carefully raked to remove extraneous grass and leaves, then spiked with a garden fork to aerate; then spread a mixture of fine soil and peat, containing a slow acting fertilizer (e.g. bone meal, 40z. per sq. yd.); alternatively use a prepared autumn fertilizer at the prescribed dosage. Plant your roses now.

W. C. Botfield, Hon. Secretary

For sale Indesit 275 2-door fridge/freezer. Capacity: fridge 8 cu. ft., freezer 2. Dimensions: 55" high, 21" wide, 21" deep. Automatic defrost. 8 months old, immaculate; genuine reason for sale. Contact Linda Green: 80503 (office hours), or 80517. £50 and



### Elector's Lists

Copies of the lists for Bar Hill which will be in force from 16th February 1975 to 15th February 1976 are available for inspection at the Post Office, Information Centre, Church and from the Clerk to the Parish Council. If you wish to object against the list you must submit your claim before 16th December 1974 to:

The Electoral Registration Officer, Great Eastern House, Tenison Road, Cambridge.  
Mark Pettit (Clerk), 28 Acorn Avenue, tel. 85400

### Parish Council Meeting, Tuesday 19th November

(1) Proposed office block We tried to advise personally all residents who might be affected by the detailed planning application of the Developers to build a two- and three-storey office block on the car park near Keymarkets. At the meeting we had available to us the opinions of some 15 residents. We agreed that a final decision by the Council will be made at our next meeting on Tuesday, 17th December. The South Cambs. Planning Committee will not consider this application until early January 1975.

The detailed points discussed will appear in the published minutes.

Allotments (2) We have received verbal advice that the Developers are now willing to talk about the form of earth embankment to hide the allotments. No further details available

(3) Lights/Road surface in Pheasant Rise We are still much concerned about the slow progress of works and are applying as much pressure as possible to get these problems resolved.

(4) Aircraft noise We shall be writing to the Ministry of Defence (Air) to protest about the noise over the Village from the jets of Alconbury.

(5) Water Mains We are told by the Water Company that there are some faulty joints which occasionally break, causing disruption to water supplies in some Village areas.

(6) Cars in the Mall We are seeking clarification from the Developers about some shopkeepers driving their cars on to the Mall during Sunday for loading and unloading.

(7) Bus stop island We are approaching the Developers to try to have paving slabs put on the bus stop island in front of the Mall.

(8) Village plan The South Cambs Planners have advised us that in the Spring of 1975 they intend starting work on a Village Plan for Bar Hill. They are not yet sure of the exact nature that the preparatory work will take.

The full text of the Minutes can be seen on the noticeboard outside Keymarkets.

Next meeting (as usual open to the public): Tuesday, 17th December, 8 p.m. in School.

### BHRA: From the Secretary's Notepad

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the retiring committee for their assistance over the last year and welcoming the new committee, especially those attending for the first time.

AGM Our AGM was well attended again this year. Residents heard from our Chairman, Ken Anderson, a report of the committee's work over the year, including the Village Fete, Dances and the Firework Display. The Treasurer, Rev. H. Scott, gave the details of our accounts, which are in a healthy position. As Mr. Scott is relinquishing his post the committee would like to thank him for his "accounting" over the last 2 years. Our thanks also to Mark Pettit (Parish Clerk) for his reports on the Village Trust and on Planning Application for offices.

Christmas Dance Don't forget: Friday, 13th December at 8.30 in the School. Tickets obtainable from: Mr. Wood, S. Turner, E. Levitt, K. Read-Jones, J. Rodbard (see p.1) Tickets are £1 each, or 80p to current members of the Residents Association. Proceeds in aid of playground equipment.

Parking, Otter Close Following the request in last month's Newsletter I am pleased to announce that residents have co-operated in reducing congestion.

What is it? - contd. Following our rather light-hearted suggestions about the "balancing lake" at the entrance to the Village, the Site Agent Mr. Barnes tells me that this lake and the one situated by Dry Drayton Creek prevented the lower part of the Village from being flooded during the recent heavy rainfall. It is calculated that the balancing lake in the Picnic Area, taken at its highest level, contained 15 million gallons, and that 150 million gallons passed through the Creek in 48 hours. The Great Ouse River Authority calculates that we can expect rainfall like this once in 20 years, so with luck some of us will be OAPs before it occurs again!

continued overleaf

"The old order changeth, yielding place to the new . . ."

This Newsletter, like the Residents Association itself, was started by the late Bob Burry to help establish the community at Bar Hill. He produced edition Number 1 in December 1967 at the foundation of the Association. Number 8 appeared in April 1969, and Bob Burry then handed over the role of editor to me. I was given freedom of contents and format, the only injunction being to produce monthly!

From June 1969 onwards my wife and I have managed to produce 63 monthly editions, more or less on time, with one omitted at holiday time, and with timely help from others on two occasions; during the slow demise of the present (and original) hand-operated duplicator we have twice been glad to accept offers of help with the duplicating.

At the start there was a good deal of telephoning and running about in search of copy, and even of writing it myself; my own measure of the Newsletter's success is the degree to which copy now arrives unsolicited (sometimes in floods!), and for months on end I don't have to write a thing. We have been especially grateful for the many contributions which have arrived promptly and clearly written!

In the early days the numbers produced were small enough for me to deliver by myself; since then the growth of the Village has been mirrored in the lists of new residents and in the ever-increasing number of copies needed. We now have a band of willing distributors, mostly members of the BHRA Committee; I would also like to acknowledge the long and devoted assistance of Mike Duce, Wilf Bishop, Mrs. Craske, Pippa Temple, and particularly Mrs. Hawkins, our earliest volunteer.

Over the years we have stirred up the occasional controversy, conducted a protracted campaign against roving dogs, and published not a little unintentional humour. Once or twice we have trodden on toes, for which we apologise. Strangely enough, perhaps the most rewarding occasions have been those when we have been able to convey the thanks of members of the community who have suffered hardship or loss.

The Newsletter is now quite a hardy perennial and I'm sure that, grafted on to its new stock, it will continue to thrive for years to come. The new production committee have plenty of good ideas, and I wish them luck and success in their venture. We have found it very worthwhile and enjoyable, and I'm sure they will too.

Lastly (if she will type it), I'd like to thank my wife Gill, without whose constant help nothing would have been done.

John Wills

From the Secretary's Notepad, contd.

Thanks The Committee would like to record their thanks to the 1st Bar Hill Brownies for collecting £21 for playground equipment and to the Bar Hill Cubs for building a second bonfire for November 5th, after vandals had destroyed the first.

Gas heating appliances It has come to our notice through the Developers that some residents are still unaware that the appliances installed by them are not covered by a maintenance scheme, only a guarantee to cover faulty parts, etc. We would therefore recommend that all appliances should be covered by schemes such as those operated by the Gas Board and by private firms (see Yellow Pages and local press). Remember, a fault in your appliance, apart from detracting from the efficiency of the heating system could be extremely dangerous if not corrected immediately by a qualified engineer.

Letter I recently received a letter from a resident of Hanover Housing who is at present in hospital, and I'm sure Mr. Gribbin will not object to my quoting him. "...I have enjoyed much kindness (in Bar Hill) and I have often quite forgotten my age. The young married people and the children have been a source of real pleasure and companionship. Thank you for the very practical Newsletter ..."

A Happy Christmas to all our supporter.

Kevin Read-Jones

Editor's apologies We regret that shortage of space prevents us from printing the Competition Corner referred to by Mr. Anderson - doubtless it will appear next month.

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